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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 14 JUL 50

SUBJECT Political Situation in Albania

NO. OF PAGES 1

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(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1C

1. It is believed by some Albanians that the recent purge in the Politburo of the Communist Party of Albania* tended to strengthen the position of General Hoxha in the Albanian Government. Other measures taken to strengthen the regimes were said to be similar local purges, as in the Epitropes region. Further, all administrative posts are now in the hands of Hoxha followers. On the other hand, the entire State security mechanism is considered to be controlled by Shehu; this division of power (Hoxha controlling the political machine of the Communist Party, and Shehu controlling the Security forces) is thought by some to be the result of an "agreement" between the two men.
2. In this connection, source went on to report the belief among certain Albanians that, while there is some antagonism between Hoxha and Shehu, the Soviets are keeping the two men well under control, both of whom have many strong and faithful followers. The followers of Xoxe, of whom many are still allegedly in Government jobs, would like to see either of them fall so that they (Xoxe's men) may exploit the resultant situation. The Soviets, however, are said to have found a way to satisfy the egotism of both men, and informants report talk in Party circles that after the election of the new National Assembly Enver Hoxha would continue as Chief of State and Prime Minister, but all the work of administration would fall upon Shehu.**

25X1X

Comment: [REDACTED] (with regard to other dismissals within the Albanian military) that in addition to Nexhip Vincani, ten other officers of the Albanian General Staff had been dismissed for disloyalty to the regime.

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Comment: At the first session of the Second Legislature of the People's Assembly of 5 July 1950, General Enver Hoxha was reappointed Premier, and Lieutenant General Mehmet Shehu appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and of National Defense.

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[illegible]

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CORRECTION

distributed on 14 July 1950, was
to the official government list

contained in the 6 July issue of Zeri i Popullit, however, Lieutenant-General Mehmet Sheku continues to be the Minister of Interior, while General Enver Hoxha retains the titles of Premier, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Minister of National Defense.

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